

6th August 1955]

[Mr. Chairman]

MOTION.

"That the concurrence of the Legislative Council be obtained for setting up a Joint Select Committee of both the Houses consisting of 30 members (20 members of the Assembly and 10 members of the Council) to consider the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Bill, 1955, and that the following Members of this House be selected to serve on such a Joint Select Committee :—

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|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (1) The Hon. Sri M. A. Manickavelu. | (11) Sri Chinnathambi Thevar. |
| (2) The Hon. Sri C. Subramaniam. | (12) " T. V. Sannasi. |
| (3) Sri K. Rajaram. | (13) " P. Ramamurthi. |
| (4) " V. K. Ramaswamy Mudaliar. | (14) " C. Kandaswami. |
| (5) " S. Ramaswami Naidu. | (15) " K. R. Sambandam. |
| (6) " P. B. K. Rajachidambaram. | (16) " R. Rangaswami Gounder. |
| (7) " P. S. Krishnaswami Iyengar. | (17) " Nallasivam. |
| (8) " V. K. Palaniswami Gounder. | (18) " Palani, andi. |
| (9) " Krishnaswami Padayachi. | (19) " D. Dasarathan. |
| (10) " Kattimuthu. | (20) " K. Vinayakam." |

III.—DISCUSSION ON THE DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR EXCESS EXPENDITURE FOR 1950-51.

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is rather very strange that there is a demand for appropriation of accounts for 1950-51, in the year 1955. I find that this is done on the recommendations of the Public Accounts Committee. I think the Public Accounts Committee has done a very good service and we are grateful to it. I know human institutions are imperfect. But that there should have been so much overspending in 1950-51 which was not discovered till 1955 is a very strange thing. The reasons given for one item is : ‘ The expenditure was on the maintenance and repairs to minor irrigation works in the zamindari estates taken over by the Government. Provision for this special expenditure was omitted to be made by oversight. . . . I am wondering whether this ‘oversight’ reflects any credit to the department concerned. I have no doubt that the Hon. Finance Minister will see that every step is taken that this does not recur. But from the report of the Public Accounts Committee, we find that there has been a great delay in money matters and that there has been a lowering of standards. In the report of the Committee for the previous year, it is found that the Accountant-General drew the attention of the Committee to the audit objections and the amounts involved in them. The Committee was informed that as a result of the stringent instructions issued from time to time, considerable reduction has been made in the pendency of the objections and the Government continued to exercise close watch over the progress made in the clearance of the objections, taking suitable action against the officers responsible for the delay. I find that the Government have been very active and steps were taken. I do not know whether that state of things is continuing”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Considerable improvement has been made.”

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—“ In another portion it is stated that the Accountant-General has pointed out that notwithstanding the

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fact that the accounts of each year were closed much later than the prescribed date and the appropriation accounts and the audit report thereon for the last two years came out considerably later than usual many controlling officers did not furnish in time explanations for the variations between the original budget appropriation and the final modified appropriation, and between the latter and the actual expenditure, and that due to their default, the variations under several heads in the appropriation accounts remained unexplained or inadequately explained. I do not know whether any improvement has been effected this year. Anyway, the Public Accounts Committee has observed that the delay in finding out the expenditure over the budgeted figures has been very great and some steps should be taken to see that at least in 1952-53, the accounts of which will be brought in perhaps this year, there will not be much delay, as there has been in bringing the accounts of 1950-51 in 1955."

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY :—" Mr. Chairman, Sir, though I do not mean going into the details of the excess expenditure for 1950-51, I think I can make a few observations with regard to the general administration in this connection and I think I will be well within my bounds in utilising this opportunity for that . . . "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We are now discussing the excess expenditure for 1950-51 and therefore the discussion should also be limited to that. The hon. Member cannot bring in general administration and talk about his ' teachers salary ' and all that."

* SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY :—" Sir, of course, I do not mean to utilise this occasion for the cause of teachers generally. I think it would be better if we have a separate department in the Government for the overall supervision and for co-ordinated replanning of administration. Now we have got a mechanism left by the Britishers and it is but proper for us to see whether the details of administration under the various heads cannot be recast to suit the Indian genius. For example, we have spent here under Stationery and Printing a very large sum. Is it necessary for us under the changed circumstances to have the various forms that are being used now? We should see whether certain portions of the forms, for example, the demand form for municipal and property tax, could not be deleted; whether all the statements and returns that are being called for from sub-offices under the Government are necessary, as some of the returns simply give nil figures and whether expenditure cannot be curtailed under Stationery and Printing in that way.

" Again, taking the case of medical and public health expenditure, is it not high time for us to see that we spent more on the preventive side than on the curative side? We should also consider whether it would be possible for us to provide beds and

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medical facilities according to the needs expressed by the people and whether we should not in order to satisfy such needs, lay stress on Ayurveda and Homœopathy, etc.? I think the Ministers are also receiving representation from the public in this regard during their tours.

“ With regard to Civil Works, we can have a scrutiny with the help of the department that I recommend to see whether it is completely necessary for us to be macadamising and cement concreting all the roads according to the demands of Local Bodies and the Highways Department; and whether we should not spend more on the development side than on the non-development side. All these things will have to be considered. Even with regard to education, we must see whether it is necessary to expand the schools on the old type that we are at present having or whether a different system suited to the Indian genius should be adopted. My point in just bringing all these things is that a Department, which would be able to co-ordinate all these activities and have overall supervisions of the administration of the various sections of the Government, would enable us to recast our administration to avoid ‘red tape’ to do things speedily and to give the people their required needs in a shorter time and at a cheaper cost. Even if my recommendations may not seem practicable immediately, I think that in the long run the Government will feel the necessity for a Department to co-ordinate all these things to recast the details of administration and to have a separate Minister in charge of this co-ordinated replanning of administration.”

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SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, many of these excess items of expenditure are unavoidable and I do not think that anybody could raise objection to that. But there are one or two matters which require some explanation and that is why I rise to make a few observations.

“ So far as the Madras Thermal scheme suspense account is concerned, a sum of Rs. 4,98,254 is due from the Madras Electric Tramways on account of non-realization of arrears of current consumption charges from them. The Madras Electric Tramways refused to pay the bills as they contended that the claim was not in accordance with the original agreement. I would like to know whether the Government examined this position, whether they are convinced that the contention of the Tramways is correct and whether nothing could be done further on that account.”

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ It is pending in Court, Sir.”

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—“ Sir, I thought some explanation was necessary in that regard. That is why I made a reference to that.

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar]

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“ Another point I wish to make is with regard to Demand XXI. Industries. It is stated that the excess was due to the payment of a decree amount with interest and costs in connexion with a case claiming the value of silk seized from a party by the Government for violation of control orders. I understand that the Government seized some property from a party for violation of the control orders. But how is it that the Government are liable to pay a decree amount? Who filed the suit against the Government? These things are not mentioned in the statement and I would like to know whether there was any mistake on the part of the Government in seizing the goods, whether they were responsible for the custody of those goods and whether there was any trouble on that account. Otherwise, I cannot understand how the Government are liable to pay a decree amount with interest and costs. This is a large sum of Rs. 44,737.

“ In the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the accounts of the State for the year 1950-51, there are two observations which the Government should take note of and give us some assurance. The Committee has stated ‘ Nevertheless, it is necessary from all points of view that the accounts of a year are considered as early as possible after the close of the year ’. I hope that hereafter the Public Accounts Committee would sit soon after the accounts for the financial year are closed and would examine those accounts. That should be the proper state of affairs. I would like to know from the Government whether this suggestion would be implemented in the future.

“ I would also like to know whether it will not be possible to associate one or two members of this House with the Public Accounts Committee. I know the responsibility of the Assembly to vote the Demands for grants and see that public money is expended properly. But still it will be better if one or two members of this House are also associated with the Public Accounts Committee so that we may become acquainted with the procedure and methods adopted.

“ The Committee has also observed : ‘ One common explanation given was that some debits or credits which were expected to be made in the accounts of the last month were not actually so made, or that credits or debits which were not expected to be adjusted in the accounts of the year were actually so adjusted after the close of the year.’ It has recommended that it should be possible for the Head of department concerned to ascertain whether or not the debit would be actually raised and adjusted in the accounts of the year. Otherwise, it would not be possible to control the expenditure. So, there must be some provision to see that such things do not recur. The debits and credits should not go without being completely adjusted because the year is closed.

“ The Committee has also pointed out : ‘ The Accountant-General drew the attention of the Committee to certain important

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types of arrears in the maintenance of the initial accounts which continued to exist notwithstanding the fact that additional staff was sanctioned to clear them off, and that one of the main difficulties in the way of improving the position was inexperience and inefficiency of the staff in the executive offices'. I wish that the Government should look into this matter and see that persons experienced in accounting are appointed to ensure correct budgeting and control of expenditure.

" These are some general observations which I have made and it is the duty of the Government to see that qualified staff, who have got experience and are efficient in keeping accounts, are selected and appointed to these posts."

* SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Hon. the Leader of the House, while introducing the Statement of Demands for Grants for Excess Expenditure in the year 1950-51, has already explained the causes for the great delay in placing this for our consideration. Of course, this is a *post-mortem* examination that we have now. But certain points raised by the hon. Members just now would appear to call for our attention and remarks. What the hon. Member Sri G. Krishnamurthi said about stationery is perfectly true. The Government should take all possible steps to prevent wastage of stationery in all the departments. Even now we find that when papers are placed on the table of the House, there is one docket sheet attached to them. I do not see any reason why there should be a docket sheet. After all, all these matters are going to be incorporated in the proceedings of the day and are printed and supplied to us when we could have them for our reference. All wastage of stationery should be cut down. In this connexion, I would like to point out that there is no need to purchase paper or other articles of stationery from outside India. There is a heading in the Budget, viz., ‘Charges in England under Stationery and Printing—Demand XXXI’. All items of charges in England for the purchase of stationery should be stopped. Indian-made articles only should be purchased. I also find that unsized papers are being ordered for the use of Government Press. Great care should be taken to order paper of the proper size suitable to machines in the Government Press. Large quantities of unsized paper had been ordered by the Superintendent, Government Press, and the paper had then to be cut into the required sizes so much so there was much wastage in cutting the paper to the sizes required. The unsized papers were sent to a saw mill near Guindy for cutting. Charges have been incurred on cutting unsized papers. This is being done even now. The Government ought to see that such wastage is avoided. The Controller of Stationery and Printing should be made personally responsible to see that correct indents are placed and proper sizes of paper are got. I would plead that necessary instructions should be issued to the department concerned in this matter.

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" The hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar referred to Grant No. XXI—Industries. It is explained in item (2) ' The excess was due to the payment of a decree amount with interest and costs in connexion with a case claiming the value of silk seized from a party by the Government for violation of control orders '. We should like to know what happened to the silk seized, how much money was realized and what the net loss to the Government was. I hope the Hon. Minister will enlighten us on this.

" Under Grant No. XXIV—Miscellaneous Departments, it is explained, ' Consequent on the merger of the Pudukkottai, Banganapalle and Sandur States with the Madras State, the temples and charitable institutions in those States were taken over by the Madras Government for maintenance '. We should like to know whether their maintenance is still the responsibility of this State. Have these temples been brought under the Hindu Religious Endowments and Charitable Institutions Act? Are they now in line with the procedure adopted in our State? Is any contribution being levied and collected under the Act? What is the position now with regard to the temples taken over? Elucidation on these points should be given to appreciate the present demand under the head in the statement placed before us.

" Then under ' Civil Works ' there is an excess expenditure of Rs. 14,03,667 and the explanation for this excess is that ' the excess expenditure was due mainly to the execution of a series of annual repairs not contemplated at the time of the lump-sum provision '. This is certainly improper. No fresh items of expenditure should be incurred without specific allotment for the purpose. I, therefore, want the Government to issue instructions to the departments and not to encourage such unauthorized items of expenditure and stop bringing them up for ' post-mortem ' sanction.

" Again, Sir, the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar has referred to the Madras Electric Tramways having refused to pay certain bills as they contended that the claim was not in accordance with the original agreement. It is a pity that such a large sum of Rs. 5 lakhs is to be written off. It is stated that the bills were revised late in the year 1950-51. The Madras Electricity Supply Corporation, as hon. Members are aware, was taken over by Government in 1947. This House should be told why the bills were not revised in time and recoveries effected. It is stated that the Tramways would not pay because the bills were not in accordance with the original agreement. I should like to know why the original agreement was not drawn up in a fool-proof manner. Could not the officers responsible for this negligence be asked to make good this loss? I think the Government should be strict in this matter and not allow such large sums to be written off.

" Under Grant XVI—Medical, the excess expenditure, it is stated, was due to larger expenditure under ' Medicines and Hospital necessities ' in the mufassal hospitals and dispensaries,

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May I know, in this connexion, what has become of the assurance given by Government that all taluk headquarters hospitals would be taken over by Government, that they would all be improved and that adequate stock of medicines and hospital necessities would be supplied to these dispensaries? I find that the district boards are not able to maintain these institutions efficiently. There has not been adequate supply of medicines and the public have been clamouring that these hospitals are not being run properly. The district boards should be relieved of the responsibility of running these hospitals and they should be asked to open rural dispensaries from the savings effected by the taking over of these taluk headquarters hospitals by Government.

"I hope, Sir, the Government will kindly enlighten us on the points that have been raised just now in this House."

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—Sir, I am also not satisfied with the state of affairs of scrutinizing the accounts of 1950-51 in 1955. As a matter of fact, I have been pressing the Auditor-General and the Accountant-General that the audit report should be made available as early as possible so that the Public Accounts Committee may be able to scrutinize it and place that report before the Legislature at a very early date. But in spite of my best efforts, I should say that I have not succeeded very much. We have just now finished the scrutiny of 1951-52 accounts and accounts for 1952-53 will have to be taken up hereafter. I mentioned in the other House that I was wondering whether during the period of this Legislature (Assembly) the accounts which were dealt with by the present Ministry would come up for discussion at all. This delay is due to very many intricate problems connected with the auditing of accounts. The first thing which has got to be done is that a particular year's accounts should be closed. That takes five or six months after the closing of the financial year. It is not possible to close the accounts soon after the close of the financial year. The accounts are concerned with so many treasures and sub-treasures and so many other institutions. As we all know, in auditing we cannot leave even a difference of one pie. If there is a difference, that will have to be rectified. This takes a good deal of time. After this, the Audit department takes up the scrutiny of the accounts. Then, if they find any discrepancies, they issue notices to the various departments calling upon them to explain the discrepancies. As we are busy with current affairs, we do not pay immediate attention to past events. Therefore, necessarily it used to take some time for the departments to submit their explanations. But one unsatisfactory state of affairs which persisted some time ago was that some of the departments never cared to reply to audit objections. This was brought to our notice when the Public Accounts Committee met for the first time after the last general elections. After that, we issued very strict instructions, to which reference was also made here. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition read

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out the instruction, also that no department should fail to send its explanation. Not only it should not fail to send its explanation, but it must send the explanation within a definite time-limit. After getting the explanations if they are satisfactory, then all right. If they are not satisfactory, again there is discussion between the Audit department and the department concerned and then they have to prepare their audit report. Then it is printed and submitted to Government. It is after this that the Public Accounts Committee, which is constituted by the Legislative Assembly, takes up consideration of the audit report submitted by the Accountant-General. So far as these accounts were concerned, there was partition also coming in between 1952 and 1953. It is with reference to this accounts for 1950-51 that Sri T. Viswanatham, who was the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee at that time, resigned. Hon. Members might be aware of the same. The Public Accounts Committee had to meet again to elect another Chairman and carry on their work. They submitted their report in last December. We have taken this up just now because we could not find time earlier. That is because of delay in getting the audit report. The entire thing depends upon how soon we are able to get the audit report from the Accountant-General. The Accountant-General also has been instructed by the Auditor-General that the audit report should be speeded up so much so it would be possible for the legislature to scrutinize the irregularities at a very early date. I may inform hon. Members that there is bound to be some delay in the submission of explanations and also in the submission of the audit report. Within a few years I hope it will be possible to get the audit report much earlier. Once delays are made somewhere, it casts its shadow on others and the accounts for the subsequent years are delayed. I do hope within a few years we would be able to make it up and it would be possible to discuss these reports within two years after the closing of the financial year. I think it would be enough to keep that (two years) as the target.

“ Hon. Members wanted to have explanations with reference to various items, as to how irregularities arose in the accounts and particularly with reference to the electricity charges due from the Tramway company. The hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham drew our attention particularly to that matter. The original agreement was not an agreement drawn by Government. The Tramway company had entered into an agreement with the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. Hon. Members might be aware that Government subsequently took over control of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation. When we took over control, we wanted to charge the company at the scheduled Government rates. But the Tramway company contended that they were entitled to be supplied at the rates prescribed in the old agreement which they had entered into with the Electric Supply Corporation. Therefore there was some dispute. Government was of the opinion that the company was bound to pay at the rates specified by the Government. It is not only that. We could have understood the company's not paying

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extra charges. But even admitted charges were not paid by the company for a certain period before they closed down. So much so for the entire amount we had to go before the Court. As far as the extra charges we claimed were concerned, we did not succeed in the first court and the matter is pending on appeal in the High Court now. Then with reference to admitted charges, unfortunately we have to rank with all other creditors. The question whether we could have priority over other creditors and debenture-holders in view of the fact that electricity was supplied for the purpose of running the concern which is a first charge, is again in appeal. Therefore hon. Members might realize the position in which Government are placed.

"I am sorry that with reference to the other item concerning Rs. 40,000, I do not have the papers with me now. My recollection is that the silk was seized by the Police department on the assumption that there was contravention of certain rules and it was confiscated and sold out. But the person concerned took the matter to a Court of law saying that there was no contravention of rules and he was entitled to get back the amount from Government. It is only my recollection. I would look into the papers and verify the position. But I knew the matter went to a Court of law. After hearing the party concerned and the Government, there was an adjudication and it is because of the adjudication we have paid this amount. There is no question of any payment by any executive authority. We were bound to obey the orders of Court and we did obey it.

"Hon. Members may know that with reference to the demands towards the close of the financial year, we make only an estimate. Revised estimate is made and supplementary demands are made towards February or March. Even for that we have to make the estimates in January and therefore with reference to the latter half of January or February or March, we have to make only an estimate of the expenditure. After all an estimate is an estimate and it cannot be an accurate estimate of all our requirements. Therefore in certain cases even with respect to supplementary demands, it is found we have not spent all the money under a particular head only at the end of the year and we find we have not made a correct estimate. In certain cases surrenders have got to be made while in some we would have overspent. As we all know after the Constitution has come into force, we cannot spend even a pie without getting the sanction of the legislature. That was not the case before the coming into force of the Constitution, viz., before 26th January 1950. Prior to its coming into force, the Public Accounts Committee's report was placed before the Legislature and we simply had a discussion on the same. It is not so now. Whatever we might have spent, after the Constitution came into force, requires the ratification of the Legislature. That is the position now. That is why even though five years have now passed away, to satisfy the constitutional requirements, we place in the form of demands these excess expenditure incurred in 1950-51 and we ask

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the legislature to sanction the excess expenditure we have incurred, even though it might be a *post-mortem* sanction. In spite of the best efforts of the Finance Department, it is not possible to estimate the expenditure exactly. There is bound to be excess expenditure in subsequent years also. But we shall try to minimise the percentage of excess expenditure. Whether it is excess expenditure or surrender, always a 5 per cent variation, is considered to be a good estimate. I may assure hon. Members that in most of these cases, we have not exceeded that percentage. Therefore instead of

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condemning the Finance Department, we have to give some credit to them for what they have done. (Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar : 'I regard the surrender as worse than excess expenditure.') We cannot pass such a blank judgment so to say. I shall give as instance. Suppose we place orders on a certain company in England and we have to make payments. The goods might have arrived here. As soon as the goods arrive we expect to make payments. Suppose it arrives in January, and we expect that it would arrive in January, then we make provision for the payment of the bill. Suppose the goods do not arrive or the Company does not send the bill in time, then we have to surrender the amount.'

SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR :—“It is only an exception.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“If the expected expenditure does not take place, we have got to surrender the excess amount. So also the other case might arise. We might be under the impression that in the ordinary course the bill would come after the close of the official year and so we would not have made provision for the same. But suddenly if the bill is presented, we cannot say, especially to foreign firms, that he have not made provision for meeting the bill. We have to honour the bill immediately. Therefore, we have to make payment immediately and come before the Legislature and get its sanction for the extra expenditure. All these things are inevitable in a transaction, especially when we have what is called a financial year. We have to close the accounts with reference to that particular date. In a vast Governmental organization like this, it is not possible to close all the accounts within that period. Nor is it possible to make a correct estimate of expenditure and surrender the excess under the appropriate head even three months before the close of the financial year. That is why the routine explanation will always be given and hon. Members will have to be satisfied with that.

“Then, inexperience and inefficiency of the staff was referred to. After independence very senior persons who were serving here left all on a sudden. So, we had to make adjustments and during that year it was nothing surprising that there was a certain amount of inefficiency due to inexperience of senior officers. But it stopped at a certain limit and we have passed that stage now. I may say that hon. Members will now be satisfied that we are in the upward path and we are not deteriorating in any event. I think hon. Members will be satisfied with this explanation.

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“ With regard to the wastage in stationery, of course it is not relevant for the purpose of this subject. But still I may say that we are trying our best to see that wastage is avoided. But if the Secretariat want to be a little bit on the side of even extravagance with reference to hon. Members of the Legislature it is because they feel that hon. Members would say that they are not properly treated and that a scrap of paper is thrown at them without any docket sheet or without any sheet attached to it. Therefore, we should not take what happens in the Legislature as the standard laid down for the other departments. On the other hand, they have control over the utilization of stationery. But in spite of all our control, there is bound to be leakage and wastage here and there. It should be our endeavour always to see that wastage is avoided. I am glad the hon. Member Sri Purushotham drew our attention and I would like not only the members of the Legislature and the members of the staff but everybody concerned with the Government administration to keep this in mind that we should avoid wastage. That is one form of earning. Therefore, it is better we remind ourselves as often as possible that we should avoid wastage. So from that point of view it would be quite relevant in this connexion and I welcome the suggestion of the hon. Member to avoid wastage, particularly in a department, i.e., stationery department where it is possible to do so.

“ As far as the purchase of unsized paper is concerned, if a calculation is made, it will be seen that it would be more economical to get unsized paper and cut it rather than to purchase paper which is already cut according to the quired sizes. I am sure the authorities would have made a calculation and it is only after considering the economies of the unsized paper and the cut paper, they would have ordered for such paper. Still, if there is anything to be looked into, certainly I will look into it.

“ Hon. Members may be aware that I gave an indication during the budget debate that, as far as I was concerned, I would consider the provincialization of taluk headquarters hospitals and particularly the provincialization of the medical personnel because we found lack of personnel in the rural dispensaries and hospitals. Therefore, in my view, the entire medical personnel should form a provincial cadre and wherever they are posted they should be prepared to go and serve. If this is done by rotation, perhaps every doctor in Government service will have to serve two or three years in a rural area and that will be a good thing for them also. We have included this programme of provincialization of some of the medical dispensaries and hospitals and also the provincialization of the personnel in the Second Five-Year Plan. I am sure if hon. Members go through the papers relating to the Second Five-Year Plan supplied to them, they will find the proposals there.

“ With reference to the maintenance of temples referred to by Sri Purushotham, it was discussed in detail in the Public Accounts Committee. I do not think there is any other matter to which I have to answer.”

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SRI M. P. GOVINDA MENON :—“ Sri Purushotham referred to the purchase of local made paper . . . ”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ Yes, the hon. Member made a reference to it. After all we have to consider what is our national requirement. Whether it is purchase on Government account or for the use of the public, we have got a certain quantity of paper for our national consumption. If it is found that the production here would not meet the entire national requirement, then at some point or other import will have to be made to meet the shortage. Whether the public are allowed to purchase from outside India or the Government purchase it, it does not matter at all.”

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—“ There are certain varieties which we cannot produce.”

* THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—“ But I may tell the hon. Member that it is the aim of the Central Government and this Government to see that all the goods for our requirements are produced within our country, subject to raw materials being available and subject to the economies of production also. But in certain cases it may be advantageous to import certain goods and in turn export our own to the other countries so that we may be able to meet import charges. Therefore, this is a matter for consideration by persons in charge of planning. The entire economics of the country will have to be taken into consideration to find out what is possible to be produced here and what we should import. Even if we have the raw materials and the will, it may not be possible to utilize all these raw materials and produce the goods at our will. Because we will have to have the necessary factories and the necessary organization for this purpose. That is the task in which we are engaged now. That is the aim of our Second Five-Year Plan.

“ I do not think I have got any other point mentioned by the hon. Members to meet.”

IV.—GOVERNMENT RESOLUTION.

RESOLUTION *re* THE CONTROL AND REGULATION OF PRIZE PUZZLE COMPETITIONS.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—“ Mr. Chairman, Sir, I move—

This Council do resolve that it is desirable that control and regulation of prize puzzle competitions and all other matters consequential and incidental thereto in so far as these matters are matters with respect to which Parliament has no power to make laws for the States should be regulated by Parliament by law.